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The distance between the horns shows this. The spike-horns are about half an inch farther apart than the others, showing the spike-horn buck to have been probably a year older than the other. The hair on the skull of the spike-horn buck is shorter than that on the other; the spike-horn was shot just as deer were attaining the "blue coat;" the other was shot a month or six weeks later. This is the reason of the difference.

Notwithstanding what Mr. Hays says, I never saw a yearling buck (that is a buck in his second year, wearing his first pair of horns) that could be said to have "attained full growth," in "height," or anything else. I never saw a "two years old" (in his third year) that had attained full growth in all respects — nor yet "a three years old." The saddle of a two years old will never exceed forty or fifty pounds in weight. I doubt whether the saddle of a yearling ever reaches the smaller weight, while I have seen full grown antlered bucks, whose saddles weighed over seventy pounds; and I have the head of one whose saddle weighed a little over eighty pounds. I have heard of bucks still heavier. Without the antlers, there may in some cases be difficulty in distinguishing between a two years old and a three years old; but there is *never* any difficulty in distinguishing between either of these and a buck of six or seven years. A yearling (in his second year) can always be known by his size. A buck in the spring, when he attains the full age of two years, never has horns, and has had none for some time. *While his first pair of horns lasts* surely he can never be said to have "attained full growth" in any respect. Shot in the fall previous, his youth is very manifest. Yet it is the first pair of horns only that are ever "spikes" in a common *C. Virginianus*.

Did Mr. Hayes ever hunt south of Raquette Lake, or ever south of Long Lake? I think it probable that he enters the Adirondacks over the more common route by way of Keesville and the Saranac Lakes, and hunts in the Raquette River country, north of Long Lake. I have hunted through the whole region from the Saranac Lakes south to Saratoga and Fulton counties, and west into Herkimer county and the "Brown tract." But I have visited the country north of Long Lake only once.

The writer in the "Saginaw Republican" apparently knows little of deer. A yearling buck (in his second year, with his first pair of horns) has spike-shaped horns; but at the rutting season he is scarcely eighteen months old, and is quite too young and small to be a rival of a full-grown buck, while a two years old buck (in his third year with his second pair of horns) has antlers which are scarcely more formidable weapons than the antlers of a full-grown buck. In point of fact I believe the full-grown bucks have altogether the advantage with the does.—ADIRONDACK.

GEOLOGY.

NEW ANIMAL REMAINS FROM THE CARBONIFEROUS AND DEVONIAN ROCKS OF CANADA. — Principal Dawson has discovered another species of amphibian from the Joggins Coal Mine, the *Baphetes minor*; the remains consisting of a lower jaw six inches long. The author also noticed some

insect remains found by him in slabs containing *Sphenophyllum*. They were referred by Mr. Scudder to the *Blattariæ*. From the Devonian beds of Gaspè the author stated that he had obtained a small species of *Ceph-alaspis*, the first yet detected in America. Mr. Etheridge remarked that the *Ceph-alaspis* differed materially in its proportions from any in either the Russian or British rocks. — *Nature*.

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

MARYLAND ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. — By this title we announce the organization of a Natural History Society in the city of Baltimore. We are glad that the long continued efforts of the gentlemen who are its present officers have at length resulted in the establishment of a society regularly chartered, and with some fifty members. They have, as it appears from an official communication to the Director of the Peabody Academy, already secured proper apartments, centrally located, and received donations of collections of books and specimens, and begun the regular scientific work of the society. The circular which the academy has published certainly states their case very fairly and modestly to the citizens of Baltimore, and we do not see how they can do otherwise than sustain the new society if they care at all for the completion of their system of public instruction.

Such societies devoted to the exposition of the natural resources of the country have a recognized value in Europe and in some of the cities of this country. But their refining influence upon society, the cultivation which results from their publications and teachings, especially if they become sufficiently well endowed to institute lectures to teachers and advanced students of the public schools, as the Boston Society has done, is not at all appreciated or even understood.

The basis of the new academy, as announced in article two, is broad and effective, and ought to insure its members the moral and material support of the community which is to be benefited by the labor of its members. As stated in this article "its object shall be to promote scientific research, and to collect, preserve and diffuse information relating to the sciences, *especially those connected with the natural history of Maryland.*"

The officers of the academy are Philip T. Tyson, president; John G. Morris, D.D., vice-president; Edwin A. Dalrymple, D.D., corresponding secretary; Charles C. Bombaugh, M.D., recording secretary; John W. Lee, treasurer; P. R. Uhler, curator; A. Snowden Piggott, M.D., Librarian; J. B. Uhler, J. DeRosset, M.D., and F. E. Chatard, jr., M.D., assistant curators.